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7  
8 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9  
10 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
11 (SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION)

12 IN RE: BEXTRA AND CELEBREX  
13 MARKETING SALES PRACTICES AND  
PRODUCT LIABILITY LITIGATION

14 MDL No. 1699

15 JACKIE LANCASTER (MS);  
ROBERT RUSSELL (MS);

CV

16 Case No. 1856

Plaintiffs,

17 v.

18 PFIZER, INC., PHARMACIA  
19 CORPORATION, G.D. SEARLE LLC, (FKA  
G.D. SEARLE & CO.), and MONSANTO  
COMPANY,

CIVIL COMPLAINT

20 Defendants.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

21  
22 Plaintiffs Jackie Lancaster and Robert Russell, by and through their counsel, bring  
23 this action against Defendants PFIZER, INC., PHARMACIA CORP., MONSANTO  
24 COMPANY, and G.D. SEARLE LLC. (hereinafter collectively "Defendants") and allege as  
25 follows:

26  
27  
28

## I. PARTIES

1. This is an action for damages arising from Defendants' design, manufacture, sale, testing, marketing, advertising, promotion, and/or distribution of the unsafe medication Valdecoxib, trade name BEXTRA® ("BEXTRA").

2. Plaintiff Jackie Lancaster was at all relevant times an adult resident citizen of the State of Mississippi, County of Montgomery. Plaintiff Jackie Lancaster was prescribed and began taking BEXTRA for the treatment of pain. As a direct and proximate result of using BEXTRA, Plaintiff suffered severe cardiovascular injuries while taking BEXTRA, including, but not limited to, a heart attack on or about June 6, 2002, which has caused and will continue to cause Plaintiff damages and places Plaintiff at risk of further serious injury or death.

3. Plaintiff Robert Russell was at all relevant times an adult resident citizen of the State of Mississippi, County of George. Plaintiff Robert Russell was prescribed and began taking BEXTRA for the treatment of pain. As a direct and proximate result of using BEXTRA, Plaintiff suffered severe cardiovascular injuries while taking BEXTRA, including, but not limited to, a heart attack on or about September 27, 2004, which has caused and will continue to cause Plaintiff damages and places Plaintiff at risk of further serious injury or death.

4. Defendant Pfizer Inc. ("Pfizer") is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in New York, New York. In 2003, Pfizer acquired Pharmacia Corporation for nearly \$60 billion. At all relevant times Pfizer and/or its predecessors in interest were engaged in the business of designing, testing, manufacturing, packaging, marketing, distributing, promoting, and selling the drug Valdecoxib, under the trade name BEXTRA in California and nationwide.

5. Defendant G. D. Searle, LLC, formerly known as G. D. Searle & Co. ("Searle") is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Illinois. At all relevant times, Searle has been engaged in the business of marketing and selling BEXTRA nationwide and in California. Searle is a subsidiary of Pfizer, acting as its agent and alter ego in all matters alleged within this Complaint.

6. Defendant Monsanto Company (“Monsanto”) was the parent corporation of Searle and is a Delaware corporation. At all times relevant hereto, Monsanto, through its subsidiary

1 companies, was in the business of manufacturing, marketing, selling and distributing the  
2 pharmaceutical product BEXTRA nationwide.

3 7. Defendant Pharmacia Corporation ("Pharmacia") is a Delaware corporation with  
4 its principal place of business in New Jersey. At all relevant times, Pharmacia, and its  
5 predecessors in interest have been engaged in the business of designing, testing, manufacturing,  
6 packaging, marketing, distributing, promoting, and selling BEXTRA nationwide and in  
7 California.

8 **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

9 8. This is an action for damages, which exceeds seventy-five thousand dollars  
10 (\$75,000.00).

11 9. There is complete diversity of citizenship between the Plaintiffs and Defendants.  
12 This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C.A. § 1332  
13 (diversity jurisdiction) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00, and because there  
14 is complete diversity of citizenship between Plaintiffs and Defendants.

15 10. Venue is proper in this United States Judicial District pursuant to 28 U.S.C.A.  
16 § 1391. Defendants marketed, advertised and distributed the dangerous product in the district,  
17 thereby receiving substantial financial benefit and profits the dangerous product in this district,  
18 and reside in this district under 28 U.S.C.A. § 1391(c), such that venue is proper.

19 11. At all relevant times herein, Defendants were in the business of designing,  
20 manufacturing, marketing, developing, testing, labeling, promoting, distributing, warranting and  
21 selling their product, BEXTRA. Defendants at all times relevant hereto designed, developed,  
22 manufactured, promoted, marketed, distributed, tested, warranted and sold Nationwide the  
23 aforementioned prescription drug. Defendants do substantial business in the State of California  
24 and within this Federal Judicial District, advertise in this district, receive substantial  
25 compensation and profits from sales of BEXTRA in this District, and made material omissions  
26 and misrepresentations and breaches of warranties in this District so as to subject them to *in*  
27 *personam* jurisdiction in this District. In engaging in the conduct alleged herein each defendant  
28 acted as the agent for each of the other defendants, or those defendant's predecessors in interest.

### **III. INTERDISTRICT ASSIGNMENT**

12. Assignment to the San Francisco Division is proper as this action is related to *In Re: BEXTRA and CELEBREX Marketing Sales Prac. and Pro. Liab. Lit.*, MDL-1699, assigned to the Honorable Charles R. Breyer by the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation on September 6, 2005. (See also, MDL-1699 Pretrial Order No. 2)

#### **IV. FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

## **A. Facts Regarding All Plaintiffs**

13. Plaintiffs and Plaintiffs' healthcare providers were at the time of Plaintiffs' injuries unaware - and could not have reasonably known or have learned through reasonable diligence - that such injury directly resulted from Defendants' negligent and otherwise culpable acts, omissions, and misrepresentations or from Plaintiffs' ingestion of BEXTRA.

14. Plaintiffs used BEXTRA in a proper and reasonably foreseeable manner and used it in a condition that was substantially the same as the condition in which it was manufactured and sold.

15. Plaintiffs would not have used BEXTRA had Defendants properly disclosed the risks associated with the drug.

## B. Facts Regarding Bextra's Market Launch

16. BEXTRA is one of a class of pain medications called non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (“NSAIDs”). Aspirin, naproxen (trade name Aleve), and ibuprofen (trade name Advil) are examples of well-known NSAIDs.

17. NSAIDs reduce pain by blocking the body's production of pain transmission enzymes called cyclo-oxygenase or "COX." There are two forms of COX enzymes—COX-1 and COX-2. Aspirin, naproxen and ibuprofen all act by blocking COX-1 and COX-2 enzymes.

18. In addition to decreasing inflammation, the prostaglandins that are supported by COX-1 enzymes are involved in the production of gastric mucus; this protects the stomach wall from the hydrochloric acid present in the stomach. It is generally accepted in the medical community that by blocking the COX-1 enzyme, the body's ability to protect gastric tissue is

1 hampered and as a result, can cause harmful gastrointestinal side effects, including stomach  
2 ulceration and bleeding.

3       19. Prostaglandin I2 is the predominant cyclooxygenase product in endothelium,  
4 inhibiting platelet aggregation (preventing clot formation), causing vasodilation, and preventing  
5 the proliferation of vascular smooth muscle. Whereas older NSAIDS inhibit Thromboxane A2  
6 and Prostaglandin I2, the COX-2 inhibitors leave Thromboxane A2 unaffected. Thromboxane A2  
7 is a potent platelet aggregator and vasoconstrictor, which is synthesized by platelets. Therefore,  
8 while the older NSAIDS suppress platelet aggregation and vasoconstriction, the COX-2 inhibitors  
9 support it.

10      20. Traditional NSAIDs like aspirin reduce pain/inflammation and therefore pain by  
11 inhibiting both COX-1 and COX-2 enzymes simultaneously. As would be expected, traditional  
12 NSAIDs may cause ulcers in the stomach. However, traditional NSAIDs do not cause blood  
13 clots, rather they actually reduce the risk of clots and help protect heart function.

14      21. Defendants and other pharmaceutical companies set out to remedy these ulcer and  
15 bleeding problems suffered by some NSAID users by developing “selective” inhibitors that  
16 would block only COX-2 production, thus (supposedly) allowing the proper maintenance of  
17 gastric tissue while still reducing inflammation.

18      22. In making this decision, Defendants and their predecessors in interest either  
19 intentionally ignored or recklessly disregarded current medical knowledge that selective COX-2  
20 inhibition lowers prostacyclin levels and causes thromboxane A<sub>2</sub> to be uninhibited, causing blood  
21 clots, and giving rise to various clot-related cardiovascular events, including heart attack, stroke  
22 and unstable angina.

23      23. Pfizer launched Celebrex, the first of the three major COX-2 inhibitor drugs, in  
24 early 1999 and initiated a massive marketing campaign to convince doctors and consumers of the  
25 superiority of their new “blockbuster” drug over less inexpensive NSAIDs. In May 1999, Merck  
26 & Co., Inc. (“Merck”) launched Vioxx, its own selective COX-2 inhibitor.

1           24. Seeking increased market share in this extremely lucrative market, Defendants,  
2 and their predecessors in interest, also sought approval of a “second generation” selective COX-2  
3 inhibitor and filed for FDA approval of BEXTRA on January 16, 2001 for the (i) prevention and  
4 treatment of acute pain, (ii) treatment of primary dysmenorrhea, and (iii) relief of the signs and  
5 symptoms of osteoarthritis and adult rheumatoid arthritis.

6           25. The FDA granted approval of the new drug on November 16, 2001, for two  
7 particular uses: (i) treatment of primary dysmenorrhea and (ii) relief for the signs and symptoms  
8 of osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis.

9           26. The FDA did not grant approval to market and promote BEXTRA for the  
10 management or prevention of acute pain.

11           27. The FDA did not grant approval to promote BEXTRA as more effective than other  
12 NSAIDs in preventing clinically serious gastrointestinal events such as perforations, ulcers or  
13 gastric bleeding.

14           28. Even without a label that allowed Defendants to legitimately claim superior safety,  
15 when Defendants, and their predecessors-in-interest, began marketing BEXTRA in early 2002,  
16 Defendants and their representatives and agents misrepresented the safety profile of BEXTRA to  
17 consumers, including Plaintiffs, the medical community, healthcare providers, and third party  
18 payers. Defendants proceeded to promote, market, sell, and distribute BEXTRA as a much safer  
19 and more effective pain reliever than other NSAIDs, such as aspirin, naproxen, and ibuprofen.

20 **C. Facts Regarding Bextra’s Safety and Defendants’ Knowledge Thereof.**

21           29. The potential for cardiovascular risk of selective COX-2 inhibitors was known to  
22 Defendants long before the FDA granted market approval in November 2, 2001. By 1997, and  
23 prior to the submission of the New Drug Application (the “NDA”) for BEXTRA, Defendants was  
24 aware that, by inhibiting COX-2, BEXTRA altered the homeostatic balance between prostacyclin  
25 synthesis and thromboxane and thereby, increased the prothrombotic effects of the drugs, causing  
26 blood clots to form in those who ingested it. *See* Topol, E.J., *et al.*, *Risk of Cardiovascular*  
27 *Events Associated with Selective Cox-2 Inhibitors, JAMA*, August 22, 2001 at 954. Although all  
28

1 COX-2 inhibitors have this mechanism of action, BEXTRA was the most selective COX-2  
2 inhibitor proposed for approval. Accordingly, it had the greatest potential to cause adverse  
3 cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events.

4 30. Pharmacologist, Dr. Garrett Fitzgerald, of the University of Pennsylvania, reported  
5 in an editorial published in *The New England Journal of Medicine* on October 21, 2004, that it  
6 was known as early as 1999 that selective COX-2 inhibitors, such as BEXTRA, suppressed the  
7 formation of prostaglandin I-2 in healthy volunteers, inhibited platelet aggregation in vitro, and  
8 may predispose patients to myocardial infarction or thrombotic stroke.

9 31. Nevertheless, on January 16, 2001, Defendants submitted an NDA to the FDA for  
10 BEXTRA, omitting information about the extent of the risks associated with BEXTRA. Without  
11 a complete picture of the potential hazards associated with the drug, the FDA approved BEXTRA  
12 on or about November 16, 2001.

13 32. Based on the studies performed on Celebrex, Vioxx, BEXTRA, and other COX-2  
14 inhibitors, and basic research on this type of selective inhibitor which had been widely conducted,  
15 Defendants knew when BEXTRA was being developed and tested that selective COX-2  
16 inhibitors posed serious cardiovascular risks for anyone who took them, and presented a specific  
17 additional threat to anyone with existing heart disease or cardiovascular risk factors. Studies  
18 show that selective COX-2 inhibitors, including BEXTRA, decrease blood levels of a  
19 prostacyclin. When those levels fall, the arteries are more vulnerable to clotting, high blood  
20 pressure, heart attack, and stroke.

21 33. On December 9, 2004, the FDA issued new information on side effects associated  
22 with the use of BEXTRA and required the addition of certain warnings to, and the strengthening  
23 of other warnings on, the BEXTRA label. The enhanced warnings followed in the wake of the  
24 results of additional cardiovascular studies performed by Defendants, as well as numerous  
25 complaints to the FDA regarding severe skin reactions.

26 34. Yet well prior to this warning, Defendants had knowledge of the coronary and  
27 cardiovascular safety risks of BEXTRA from several studies. *See e.g.*, Otto, E.O., *Efficacy and*

1       *Safety of the Cyclooxygenase 2 Inhibitors Parecoxib and Valdecoxib in Patients Undergoing*  
2       *Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery, The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*, June  
3       2003 at 1481.

4       35. Even Defendants' own (and Pfizer funded) post- drug approval meta-analysis  
5       study (first presented on March 31, 2003 and again on May 15, 2003) included this data showing  
6       an increased cardiovascular risk in patients treated with BEXTRA after undergoing coronary  
7       artery bypass graft surgery. Observed events included heart attack, stroke, and blood clots in the  
8       legs and lungs. The results were particularly relevant and striking as each of the study  
9       participants who were a post-bypass surgery patient was taking anti-clotting agents at the time  
10      their exposure to BEXTRA was being tracked.

11       36. In mid-January 2005, a peer-reviewed paper from the University of Pennsylvania  
12      found that in patients having heart bypass surgery, those who took BEXTRA in the intravenous  
13      form, parecoxib, as opposed to a placebo, were three times more likely to have a heart attack or  
14      stroke.

15       37. From February 16-18, 2005, the FDA's Drug Safety and Risk Management  
16      Advisory Committee and the Arthritis Drug Advisory Committee met jointly to further examine  
17      the safety of COX-2 inhibitors. There, FDA Office of Drug Safety Officer David Graham  
18      testified that selective COX-2 inhibitors increase the risk for adverse cardiovascular events at  
19      about the same rate as cigarette smoking, hypertension, and diabetes.

20       38. Despite years of studies on selective COX-2 inhibitors, as well as the disturbing  
21      new studies specifically analyzing the risks of BEXTRA, Defendants failed to take any action to  
22      protect the health and welfare of patients, but instead, continued to promote the drug for sale even  
23      after the FDA's Drug Safety and Risk Management Advisory Committee and Arthritis Drug  
24      Advisory Committee meetings.

25       39. On April 7, 2005, the FDA finally insisted that Defendants "voluntarily withdraw"  
26      BEXTRA from the U.S. market, stating:

1           “... the Agency has concluded that the overall risk versus  
2           benefit profile of BEXTRA is unfavorable. This conclusion is  
3           based on the potential increased risk for serious  
4           cardiovascular (CV) adverse events, which appears to be a  
5           class effect of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs  
6           (NSAIDs) (excluding aspirin), an increased risk of serious  
7           skin reactions (e.g. toxic epidermal necrolysis, Stevens-  
8           Johnson syndrome, erythema multiforme) compared to other  
9           NSAIDs, and the fact that BEXTRA has not been shown to  
10          offer any unique advantage over the other available NSAIDs.”

11           FDA Alert for Healthcare Professionals, April 7, 2005.

12           40. Continuing, the FDA noted:

13           “BEXTRA has been demonstrated to be associated with  
14           an increased risk of serious adverse CV events in two  
15           short-term trials in patients immediately post-operative  
16           from coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery ....  
17           FDA has concluded that it is reasonable to extrapolate  
18           the adverse CV risk information for BEXTRA from the  
19           short-term CABG trials to chronic use given the fact that  
20           other COX-2 selective NSAIDs have been shown in  
21           long-term controlled clinical trials to be associated with  
22           an increased risk of serious adverse CV events (e.g.,  
23           death, MI, stroke), and the well described risk of serious,  
24           and often life-threatening gastrointestinal bleeding ....  
25           To date, there have been no studies that demonstrate an  
26           advantage of BEXTRA over other NSAIDs that might  
27           offset the concern about the [ ] serious skin risks, such  
28           as studies that show a GI safety benefit, better efficacy  
                 compared to other products, or efficacy in a setting of  
                 patients who are refractory to treatment with other  
                 products.”

29           41. The scientific data available during and after BEXTRA’s approval process made  
30           clear to Defendants that their formulation of BEXTRA would cause a higher risk of blood clots,  
31           stroke and/or myocardial infarctions among BEXTRA consumers, alerting them to the need to do  
32           additional and adequate safety studies.

33           42. As stated by Dr. Topol on October 21, 2004, in *The New England Journal of  
34           Medicine*, outlining Defendants’ failure to have conducted the necessary trials before marketing  
35           to humans “... it is mandatory to conduct a trial specifically assessing cardiovascular risk and

1 benefit of (COX-2 inhibitors). Such a trial needed to be conducted in patients with established  
2 coronary artery disease, who frequently have coexisting osteoarthritis requiring medication and  
3 have the highest risk of further cardiovascular events.”

4 43. Dr. Topol was also the author on the study published in August 2001 in JAMA  
5 (listed above) that reported an increased risk of thrombotic cardiovascular events in persons who  
6 used COX-2 inhibitors.

7 44. Based upon readily available scientific data, Defendants knew, or should have  
8 known, that their pre-approval testing of BEXTRA did not adequately represent the cross-section  
9 of individuals who were intended consumers and therefore, likely to take BEXTRA. Therefore,  
10 Defendants’ testing and studies were grossly inadequate. *See, e.g.*, PDR entry for BEXTRA.

11 45. Had Defendants done adequate testing prior to approval and “market launch,”  
12 rather than the extremely short duration studies done on the small size patient base that was  
13 actually done, Pharmacia and Searle’s scientific data would have revealed significant increases in  
14 incidence of strokes and myocardial infarctions among the intended and targeted population of  
15 BEXTRA consumers. Adequate testing would have shown that BEXTRA possessed serious side  
16 effects for individuals such as Plaintiffs. Defendants should have taken appropriate measures to  
17 ensure that their defectively designed product would not be placed in the stream of commerce  
18 and/or should have provided full and proper warnings accurately and fully reflecting the scope  
19 and severity of symptoms of those side effects should have been made.

20 46. In fact, post-market approval data did reveal increased risks of clotting, stroke and  
21 myocardial infarction, but this information was intentionally suppressed by Defendants in order  
22 for them to gain significant profits from continued BEXTRA sales.

23 47. Defendants’ failure to conduct adequate testing and/or additional testing prior to  
24 “market launch” was based upon their desire to generate maximum financial gains for themselves  
25 and to gain a significant market share in the lucrative multi-billion dollar COX-2 inhibitor market.

26 48. At the time Defendants manufactured, advertised, and distributed BEXTRA to  
27 consumers, Defendants intentionally or recklessly ignored and/or withheld information regarding  
28

1 the increased risks of hypertension, stroke and/or myocardial infarctions because Defendants  
2 knew that if such increased risks were disclosed, consumers such as Plaintiffs would not purchase  
3 BEXTRA, but instead would purchase other cheaper and safer NSAIDs.  
4

5 **D. Facts Regarding Defendants' Marketing and Sale of Bextra**

6 49. At all times relevant herein, Defendants engaged in a marketing campaign with the  
7 intent that consumers would perceive BEXTRA as a safer and better drug than its other NSAIDs  
8 and, therefore, purchase BEXTRA.

9 50. Defendants widely and successfully marketed BEXTRA throughout the United  
10 States by, among other things, conducting promotional campaigns that misrepresented the  
11 efficacy of BEXTRA in order to induce a widespread use and consumption. BEXTRA was  
12 represented to aid the pain and discomfort of arthritis, osteoarthritis, and related problems.  
13 Defendants made misrepresentations by means of media advertisements, and statements  
14 contained in sales literature provided to Plaintiffs' prescribing physicians.

15 51. Despite knowledge of the dangers presented by BEXTRA, Defendants and  
16 Defendants' predecessors in interest, through their officers, directors and managing agents for the  
17 purpose of increasing sales and enhancing its profits, knowingly and deliberately failed to remedy  
18 the known defects of Defendants' product, BEXTRA, and failed to warn the public, including  
19 Plaintiff, of the serious risk of injury occasioned by the defects inherent in Defendants' product,  
20 BEXTRA. Defendants and their officers, agents and managers intentionally proceeded with the  
21 inadequate safety testing, and then the manufacturing, sale and marketing of Defendants' product,  
22 BEXTRA, knowing that persons would be exposed to serious potential danger, in order to  
23 advance their own pecuniary interests. Defendants' conduct was wanton and willful, and  
24 displayed a conscious disregard for the safety of the public and particularly of Plaintiffs.

25 52. In an elaborate and sophisticated manner, Defendants aggressively marketed  
26 BEXTRA directly to consumers and medical professionals (including physicians and leading  
27 medical scholars) in order to leverage pressure on third party payers, medical care organizations,  
28 and large institutional buyers (e.g., hospitals) to include BEXTRA on their formularies. Faced

1 with the increased demand for the drug by consumers and health care professionals that resulted  
2 from Defendants' successful advertising and marketing blitz, third party payers were compelled  
3 to add BEXTRA to their formularies. Defendants' marketing campaign specifically targeted third  
4 party payers, physicians, and consumers, and was designed to convince them of both the  
5 therapeutic and economic value of BEXTRA.

6 53. Defendants represented that BEXTRA was similar to ibuprofen and naproxen but  
7 was superior because it lacked any of the common gastrointestinal adverse side effects associated  
8 with these and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs ("NSAIDS"). For instance, NSAIDS  
9 can, in certain patients, cause gastrointestinal perforations, ulcers and bleeding with long-term  
10 use. Defendants promoted BEXTRA as a safe and effective alternative that would not have the  
11 same deleterious and painful impact on the gut, but that would be just as effective, if not more so,  
12 for pain relief.

13 54. BEXTRA possessed dangerous and concealed or undisclosed side effects,  
14 including the increased risk of serious cardiovascular events, such as heart attacks, unstable  
15 angina, cardiac clotting, deep vein thrombosis, hypertension, and cerebrovascular events, such as  
16 strokes. In addition, BEXTRA was no more effective than traditional and less expensive NSAIDs  
17 and, just like traditional NSAIDs, carried a risk of perforations, ulcers, and gastrointestinal  
18 bleeding. Defendants chose not to warn about these risks and dangers.

19 55. Defendants knew of these risks before the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (the  
20 "FDA") approved BEXTRA for sale on November 16, 2001, but Defendants ignored,  
21 downplayed, suppressed, omitted, and concealed these serious safety risks and denied inefficacy  
22 in its promotion, advertising, marketing, and sale of BEXTRA. Defendants' omission,  
23 suppression, and concealment of this important information enabled BEXTRA to be sold to, and  
24 purchased, or paid for by, the Consumers at a grossly inflated price.

25 56. Consequently, BEXTRA captured a large market share of anti-inflammatory drugs  
26 prescribed for and used by patients. In 2002 alone (after a drug launch in March of 2002), sales  
27

1 of BEXTRA exceeded \$1.5 billion, despite the significantly higher cost of BEXTRA as compared  
2 to other pain relievers in the same family of drugs.  
3

4 57. It was not until April 7, 2005, that Defendants finally acknowledged BEXTRA's  
5 deleterious side effects and announced that they were withdrawing the drug from the worldwide  
6 market based on what it misleadingly termed "new" and "unexpected" evidence linking  
7 BEXTRA to an increased risk of heart attacks and strokes.  
8

9 58. Had Defendants done adequate testing prior to approval and "market launch,"  
10 Pharmacia's scientific data would have revealed significant increases in stroke and myocardial  
11 infarction amongst the intended population of BEXTRA consumers. Adequate testing would  
12 have shown that BEXTRA possessed serious side effects. Defendants should have taken  
13 appropriate measures to ensure that their defectively designed product would not be placed in the  
14 stream of commerce and/or should have provided full and proper warnings accurately and fully  
15 reflecting the scope and severity of symptoms of those side effects should have been made.  
16

17 59. In fact, post-market approval data did reveal increased risks of clotting, stroke and  
18 myocardial infarction, but this information was intentionally suppressed by Defendants in order  
19 for them to gain significant profits from continued BEXTRA sales.  
20

21 60. Defendants' failure to conduct adequate testing and/or additional testing prior to  
22 "market launch" was based upon their desire to generate maximum financial gains for themselves  
23 and to gain a significant market share in the lucrative multi-billion dollar COX-2 inhibitor market.  
24

25 61. At the time Defendants manufactured, advertising, and distributed BEXTRA to  
26 consumers, Defendants intentionally or recklessly ignored and/or withheld information regarding  
27 the increased risks of hypertension, stroke and/or myocardial infarctions because Defendants  
28 knew that if such increased risks were disclosed, consumers such as plaintiff would not purchase  
BEXTRA, but instead would purchase other cheaper and safer NSAID drugs.

62. At all times relevant herein, Defendants engaged in a marketing campaign with the  
intent that consumers, including Plaintiffs, and their doctors would perceive BEXTRA as a better  
drug than its competitors and, therefore, purchase BEXTRA.

63. Defendants widely and successfully marketed BEXTRA throughout the United States by, among other things, conducting promotional campaigns that misrepresented the efficacy of BEXTRA in order to induce a widespread use and consumption. BEXTRA was represented to aid the pain and discomfort of arthritis, osteoarthritis, and related problems. Defendants made misrepresentations by means of media advertisements, and statements contained in sales literature provided to Plaintiffs' prescribing physicians.

64. Prior to manufacturing, sale and distribution of BEXTRA, Defendants, through their officers, director and managing agents, had notice and knowledge from several sources, that BEXTRA presented substantial and unreasonable risks of harm to the consumer. As such, BEXTRA consumers, including Plaintiffs, were unreasonably subject to risk of injury or death from the consumption of Defendants' product, BEXTRA.

65. Despite such knowledge, Defendants and Defendants' predecessors in interest, through their officers, directors and managing agents for the purpose of increasing sales and enhancing its profits, knowingly and deliberately failed to remedy the known defects of Defendants' product, BEXTRA, and failed to warn the public, including Plaintiffs, of the serious risk of injury occasioned by the defects inherent in Defendants' product, BEXTRA. Defendants and their officers, agents and managers intentionally proceeded with the inadequate testing, and then the manufacturing, sale and marketing of Defendants' product, BEXTRA, knowing that persons would be exposed to serious potential danger, in order to advance their own pecuniary interests. Defendants' conduct was wanton and willful, and displayed a conscious disregard for the safety of the public and particularly of Plaintiff.

## CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

## **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

## Negligence

66. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein and further allege as follows.

1       67. Defendants owed Plaintiffs a duty to exercise reasonable care when designing,  
2 manufacturing, marketing, advertising, distributing, and selling BEXTRA. This duty included the  
3 duty not to introduce a pharmaceutical drug, such as BEXTRA, into the stream of commerce that  
4 caused users to suffer from unreasonable, dangerous or untoward adverse side effects.

5       68. At all relevant times to this action, Defendants owed a duty to properly warn  
6 Plaintiffs and the Public of the risks, dangers and adverse side effects of their pharmaceutical  
7 drug BEXTRA.

8       69. Defendants breached their duties by failing to exercise ordinary care in the  
9 preparation, design, research, testing, development, manufacturing, inspection, labeling,  
10 marketing, promotion, advertising and selling of BEXTRA, including: failing to use due care in  
11 the preparation and development of BEXTRA to prevent the aforementioned risk of injuries to  
12 individuals when the drugs were ingested;

- 13       a. failing to use due care in the design of BEXTRA to prevent the aforementioned  
14                   risk of injuries to individuals when the drugs were ingested;
- 15       b. failing to conduct adequate pre-clinical testing and research to determine the safety  
16                   of BEXTRA;
- 17       c. failing to conduct adequate post-marketing surveillance and exposure studies to  
18                   determine the safety of BEXTRA;
- 19       d. failing to completely, accurately and in a timely fashion, disclose the results of the  
20                   pre-marketing testing and post-marketing surveillance and testing to Plaintiffs,  
21                   consumers, the medical community, and the FDA;
- 22       e. failing to accompany BEXTRA with proper warnings regarding all possible  
23                   adverse side effects associated with the use of BEXTRA;
- 24       f. failing to use due care in the manufacture, inspection, and labeling of BEXTRA to  
25                   prevent the aforementioned risk of injuries to individuals who used BEXTRA;
- 26       g. failing to use due care in the promotion of BEXTRA to prevent the  
27                   aforementioned risk of injuries to individuals when the drugs were ingested;

- 1 h. failing to use due care in the sale and marketing of BEXTRA to prevent the
- 2 aforementioned risk of injuries to individuals when the drugs were ingested;
- 3 i. failing to use due care in the selling of BEXTRA to prevent the aforementioned
- 4 risk of injuries to individuals when the drugs were ingested;
- 5 j. failing to provide adequate and accurate training and information to the sales
- 6 representatives who sold BEXTRA;
- 7 k. failing to provide adequate and accurate training and information to healthcare
- 8 providers for the appropriate use of BEXTRA; and
- 9 l. being otherwise reckless, careless and/or negligent.

10 70. Despite the fact that Defendants knew or should have known that BEXTRA  
11 caused unreasonable and dangerous side effects which many users would be unable to remedy by  
12 any means, Defendants continued to promote and market BEXTRA to consumers, including  
13 Plaintiffs, when safer and more effective methods of pain relief were available.

14 71. Defendants were, or should have been, had they exercised reasonable care, in  
15 possession of evidence demonstrating that BEXTRA caused serious side effects. Nevertheless,  
16 they continued to market their products by providing false and misleading information with  
17 regard to the safety and efficacy of BEXTRA.

18 72. Defendants knew or should have known that consumers such as Plaintiffs would  
19 foreseeably suffer injury as a result of their failure to exercise ordinary care as described above.

20 73. As a direct and proximate consequence of Defendants' acts, omissions, and  
21 misrepresentations described herein, Plaintiffs sustained serious injuries and related losses.  
22 Plaintiffs required and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiffs have incurred  
23 and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiffs also have suffered and will  
24 continue to suffer mental anguish, physical pain and suffering, diminished capacity for the  
25 enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of  
26 preexisting conditions and activation of latent conditions, and other losses and damages.  
27 Plaintiffs also incurred direct medical losses and costs include care for hospitalization, physician  
28 care, monitoring, treatment, medications, and supplies. Plaintiffs have also suffered loss of wages.

1       74. Defendants' conduct was committed with knowing, conscious, wanton, willful,  
2 and deliberate disregard for the value of human life and the rights and safety of consumers,  
3 including Plaintiffs, thereby entitling Plaintiffs to punitive and exemplary damages so as to  
4 punish Defendants and deter them from similar conduct in the future.

5       75. WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants and seek  
6 compensatory damages, and exemplary and punitive damages together with interest, the costs of  
7 suit and attorneys' fees and such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

## **Strict Liability**

10 76. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if  
11 fully set forth herein and further allege as follows.

12        77. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants were suppliers of BEXTRA,  
13 placing the drug into the stream of commerce. BEXTRA was expected to and did reach Plaintiffs  
without substantial change in the condition in which it was manufactured and sold.

78. BEXTRA was unsafe for normal or reasonably anticipated use.

16        79.      BEXTRA was defective in design or formulation because when it left the hands of  
17      the manufacturer and/or supplier, it was unreasonably dangerous and more dangerous than an  
18      ordinary consumer would expect. BEXTRA was also defective and unreasonably dangerous in  
19      that the foreseeable risk of injuries from BEXTRA exceeded the benefits associated with the  
    design and/or formulation of the product.

20        80.      BEXTRA is unreasonably dangerous: a) in construction or composition; b) in  
21      design; c) because an adequate warning about the product was not provided; d) because it does  
22      not conform to an express warranty of the manufacturer about the product.

23       81.     The characteristics of BEXTRA that render it unreasonably dangerous existed at  
24     the time the product left the control of the manufacturer or resulted from a reasonably anticipated  
25     alteration or modification of the product.

26        82. The BEXTRA manufactured and supplied by Defendants was also defective due to  
27        inadequate warnings, and/or inadequate clinical trials, testing and study, and inadequate reporting  
28        regarding the results of the clinical trials, testing and study. Defendants failed to perform

1 adequate testing before exposing Plaintiffs to the medication, testing which would have shown  
2 that BEXTRA had the potential to cause serious side effects including strokes like that which  
3 affected Plaintiffs.

4       83.     The BEXTRA manufactured and supplied by Defendants was defective due to  
5 inadequate post-marketing warnings or instructions because, after Defendants knew or should  
6 have known of the risk of injuries from BEXTRA, they failed to provide adequate warnings to the  
7 medical community and the consumers, to whom they were directly marketing and advertising  
8 BEXTRA; and, further, it continued to affirmatively promote BEXTRA as safe and effective.

9       84.     BEXTRA was manufactured, distributed, tested, sold, marketed, advertised and  
10 promoted defectively by Defendants, and as a direct and proximate cause of Defendants'  
11 defective design of BEXTRA, Plaintiffs used BEXTRA rather than other safer and cheaper  
12 NSAIDs. As a result, Plaintiffs suffered the personal injuries described above.

13       85.     Information given by Defendants to the medical community and to the consumers  
14 concerning the safety and efficacy of BEXTRA, especially the information contained in the  
15 advertising and promotional materials, did not accurately reflect the potential side effects of  
16 BEXTRA.

17       86.     Had adequate warnings and instructions been provided, Plaintiffs would not have  
18 taken BEXTRA as they did, and would not have been at risk of the harmful side effects described  
herein.

19       87.     Defendants acted with conscious and deliberate disregard of the foreseeable harm  
20 caused by BEXTRA.

21       88.     Plaintiffs could not, through the exercise of reasonable care, have discovered  
22 BEXTRA's defects or perceived the dangers posed by the drug.

23       89.     As a direct and proximate consequence of Defendants' acts, omissions, and  
24 misrepresentations described herein, Plaintiffs sustained serious injuries and related losses.  
25 Plaintiffs required and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiffs have incurred  
26 and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiffs also have suffered and will  
27 continue to suffer mental anguish, physical pain and suffering, diminished capacity for the  
28 enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of

1 preexisting conditions and activation of latent conditions, and other losses and damages.  
2 Plaintiffs also incurred direct medical losses and costs include care for hospitalization, physician  
3 care, monitoring, treatment, medications, and supplies. Plaintiffs have also suffered loss of wages.

4 90. Defendants' conduct was committed with knowing, conscious, wanton, willful,  
5 and deliberate disregard for the value of human life and the rights and safety of consumers,  
6 including Plaintiffs, thereby entitling Plaintiffs to punitive and exemplary damages so as to  
7 punish Defendants and deter them from similar conduct in the future.

8 91. WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants and seek  
9 compensatory damages, and punitive and exemplary damages together with interest, the costs of  
10 suit and attorneys' fees and such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

11 **THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

12 **Breach of Express Warranty**

13 92. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if  
14 fully set forth herein and further allege as follows.

15 93. Defendants expressly represented to Plaintiffs and other consumers and the  
16 medical community that BEXTRA was safe and fit for its intended purposes, that it was of  
17 merchantable quality, that it did not produce any dangerous side effects, particularly any  
18 unwarned-of side effects, and that it was adequately tested.

19 94. These warranties came in the form of:

20 m. Defendants' public written and verbal assurances of the safety and efficacy of  
21 BEXTRA;  
22 n. Press releases, interviews and dissemination via the media of promotional  
23 information, the sole purpose of which was to create an increased demand for  
24 BEXTRA, which failed to warn of the risk of injuries inherent to the ingestion of  
25 BEXTRA, especially to the long-term ingestion of BEXTRA;  
26 o. Verbal and written assurances made by Defendants regarding BEXTRA and  
27 downplaying the risk of injuries associated with the drug;  
28 p. False and misleading written information, supplied by Defendants, and published  
in the Physician's Desk Reference on an annual basis, upon which physicians

relied in prescribing BEXTRA during the period of Plaintiffs' ingestion of BEXTRA, and;

q. advertisements.

## Defendants.

96. Defendants knew or had reason to know that BEXTRA did not conform to these express representations in that BEXTRA is neither as safe nor as effective as represented, and that BEXTRA produces serious adverse side effects.

97. BEXTRA did not and does not conform to Defendants' express representations because it is not safe, has numerous and serious side effects, including unwarned-of side effects, and causes severe and permanent injuries.

98. Plaintiffs, other consumers, and the medical community relied upon Defendants' express warranties.

99. As a direct and proximate consequence of Defendants' acts, omissions, and misrepresentations described herein, Plaintiffs sustained serious injuries and related losses. Plaintiffs required and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiffs have incurred and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiffs also have suffered and will continue to suffer mental anguish, physical pain and suffering, diminished capacity for the enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of preexisting conditions and activation of latent conditions, and other losses and damages.

Plaintiffs also incurred direct medical losses and costs include care for hospitalization, physician care, monitoring, treatment, medications, and supplies. Plaintiffs have also suffered loss of wages.

100. Defendants' conduct was committed with knowing, conscious, wanton, willful, and deliberate disregard for the value of human life and the rights and safety of consumers, including Plaintiffs, thereby entitling Plaintiffs to punitive and exemplary damages so as to punish Defendants and deter them from similar conduct in the future.

101. WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants and seek compensatory damages, and punitive and exemplary damages together with interest, the costs of suit and attorneys' fees and such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

## **Breach of Implied Warranty**

102. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein and further allege as follows.

103. Defendants manufactured, distributed, advertised, promoted, and sold BEXTRA.

104. At all relevant times, Defendants knew of the use for which BEXTRA was intended and impliedly warranted the product to be of merchantable quality and safe and fit for such use.

105. Defendants were aware that consumers, including Plaintiffs, would use BEXTRA for treatment of pain and inflammation and for other purposes.

106. Plaintiffs and the medical community reasonably relied upon Defendants' judgment and expertise to only sell them or allow them to prescribe BEXTRA only if it was indeed of merchantable quality and safe and fit for its intended use. Consumers, including Plaintiffs, and the medical community, reasonably relied upon Defendants' implied warranty for BEXTRA.

107. BEXTRA reached consumers, including Plaintiffs, without substantial change in the condition in which it was manufactured and sold by Defendants.

108. Defendants breached their implied warranty to consumers, including Plaintiffs; BEXTRA was not of merchantable quality or safe and fit for its intended use.

109. As a direct and proximate consequence of Defendants' acts, omissions, and misrepresentations described herein, Plaintiffs sustained serious injuries and related losses. Plaintiffs required and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiffs have incurred and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiffs also have suffered and will continue to suffer mental anguish, physical pain and suffering, diminished capacity for the enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of preexisting conditions and activation of latent conditions, and other losses and damages. Plaintiffs also incurred direct medical losses and costs include care for hospitalization, physician care, monitoring, treatment, medications, and supplies. Plaintiffs have also suffered loss of wages.

110. Defendants' conduct was committed with knowing, conscious, wanton, willful, and deliberate disregard for the value of human life and the rights and safety of consumers, including Plaintiffs, thereby entitling Plaintiffs to punitive and exemplary damages so as to punish Defendants and deter them from similar conduct in the future.

111. WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants and seek compensatory damages and punitive and exemplary damages together with interest, the costs of suit and attorneys' fees, and such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

## **FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

## **Fraudulent Misrepresentation & Concealment**

112. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein and further allege as follows.

113. Defendants' superior knowledge and expertise, their relationship of trust and confidence with doctors and the public, their specific knowledge regarding the risks and dangers of BEXTRA, and their intentional dissemination of promotional and marketing information about BEXTRA for the purpose of maximizing its sales, each gave rise to the affirmative duty to meaningfully disclose and provide all material information about BEXTRA's risks and harms to doctors and consumers.

114. Defendants made fraudulent affirmative misrepresentations with respect to BEXTRA in the following particulars:

- r. Defendants represented through their labeling, advertising, marketing materials, detail persons, seminar presentations, publications, notice letters, and regulatory submissions that BEXTRA had been tested and found to be safe and effective for the treatment of pain and inflammation; and
- s. Defendants represented that BEXTRA was safer than other alternative medications

115. Defendants made affirmative misrepresentations; and fraudulently, intentionally and/or recklessly concealed material adverse information regarding the safety and effectiveness of BEXTRA.

1       116. Defendants made these misrepresentations and actively concealed adverse  
2 information at a time when Defendants knew or had reason to know that BEXTRA had defects  
3 and was unreasonably dangerous and was not what Defendants had represented to the medical  
4 community, the FDA and the consuming public, including Plaintiffs.

5       117. Defendants omitted, suppressed and/or concealed material facts concerning the  
6 dangers and risk of injuries associated with the use of BEXTRA including, but not limited to, the  
7 cardiovascular, cerebrovascular, and other serious health risks. Furthermore, Defendants'  
8 purpose was willfully blind to, ignored, downplayed, avoided, and/or otherwise understated the  
9 serious nature of the risks associated with the use of BEXTRA in order to increase its sales.

10      118. The representations and concealment were undertaken by Defendants with an  
11 intent that doctors and patients, including Plaintiffs, rely upon them.

12      119. Defendants' representations and concealments were undertaken with the intent of  
13 defrauding and deceiving Plaintiffs, other consumers, and the medical community to induce and  
14 encourage the sale of BEXTRA.

15      120. Defendants' fraudulent representations evinced their callous, reckless, willful, and  
16 depraved indifference to the health, safety, and welfare of consumers, including Plaintiffs.

17      121. Plaintiffs' physician and Plaintiffs relied on and were induced by Defendants'  
18 misrepresentations, omissions, and/or active concealment of the dangers of BEXTRA in selecting  
19 BEXTRA treatment.

20      122. Plaintiffs and the treating medical community did not know that the  
21 representations were false and were justified in relying upon Defendants' representations.

22      123. Had Plaintiffs been aware of the increased risk of side effects associated with  
23 BEXTRA and the relative efficacy of BEXTRA compared with other readily available  
24 medications, Plaintiffs would not have taken BEXTRA as he did.

25      124. As a direct and proximate consequence of Defendants' acts, omissions, and  
26 misrepresentations described herein, Plaintiffs sustained serious injuries and related losses.  
27 Plaintiffs required and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiffs have incurred  
28 and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiffs also have suffered and will  
continue to suffer mental anguish, physical pain and suffering, diminished capacity for the

1 enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of  
2 preexisting conditions and activation of latent conditions, and other losses and damages.

3 Plaintiffs also incurred direct medical losses and costs include care for hospitalization, physician  
4 care, monitoring, treatment, medications, and supplies. Plaintiffs have also suffered loss of wages.

5 125. Defendants' conduct was committed with knowing, conscious, wanton, willful,  
6 and deliberate disregard for the value of human life and the rights and safety of consumers,  
7 including Plaintiffs, thereby entitling Plaintiffs to punitive and exemplary damages so as to  
8 punish Defendants and deter them from similar conduct in the future.

9 126. WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants and seek  
10 compensatory damages, and punitive and exemplary damages together with interest, the costs of  
11 suit and attorneys' fees, and such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

#### **SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

##### **Unjust Enrichment**

127. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if  
13 fully set forth herein and further allege as follows.

128. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants were the manufacturers, sellers,  
13 and/or suppliers of BEXTRA.

129. Plaintiffs paid for BEXTRA for the purpose of managing their pain safely and  
13 effectively.

130. Defendants have accepted payment from Plaintiffs for the purchase of BEXTRA.

131. Plaintiffs did not receive the safe and effective pharmaceutical product for which  
13 she paid.

132. It is inequitable and unjust for Defendants to retain this money because Plaintiffs  
13 did not in fact receive the product Defendant represented BEXTRA to be.

133. WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants and seeks  
14 equitable relief, the costs of suit and attorneys' fees, and such other and further relief as this Court  
15 deems just and proper.

16

17

18

## **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request the following relief:

1. General damages in excess of the jurisdictional amount of this Court;
2. Consequential damages;
3. Disgorgement of profits;
4. Restitution;
5. Punitive and exemplary damages;
6. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as provided by law;
7. Recovery of Plaintiffs' costs including, but not limited to, discretionary Court  
f these causes, and those costs available under the law, as well as expert fees and attorneys'  
d expenses, and costs of this action; and
8. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: April 4, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By: Navan Ward Jr.  
Andy D. Birchfield, Jr. (BIR006)  
Navan Ward, Jr. (WAR062)  
BEASLEY, ALLEN, CROW, METHVIN,  
PORTIS & MILES, P.C.  
P. O. Box 4160  
Montgomery, Alabama 36103-4160  
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Facsimile: (334) 954-7555

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF



E-filing

## CIVIL COVER SHEET

CRB

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE TWO.)

## I.(a) PLAINTIFFS

JACKIE LANCASTER, et al.

## DEFENDANTS

PFIZER, INC., et al.

(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF  
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

Dorchester County, South Carolina

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED DEFENDANT

(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE  
TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

New York

(c) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER)

See attached.

ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)

## II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (PLACE AN 'X' IN ONE BOX ONLY)

1 U.S. Government Plaintiff  
 2 U.S. Government Defendant  
 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)  
 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

## III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (PLACE AN 'X' IN ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIFF AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT)

	PTF	DEF	PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Citizen of Another State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State  
Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State  
Foreign Nation

## IV. ORIGIN

(PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)

Original Proceeding  Removed from State Court  Remanded from Appellate Court  Reinstated or Reopened  Transferred from Another district (specify)  Multidistrict Litigation  Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment

## V. NATURE OF SUIT (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	<input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury Med Malpractice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws <input type="checkbox"/> 640 RR & Truck <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 168 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157
				<b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark
				<b>LABOR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt Reporting & Disclosure Act <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empi.Ret. Inc. Security Act
				<b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWV (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))
				<b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (US Plaintiff or Defendant <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS - Third Party 26 USC 7609
				<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/etc. <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions
<b>REAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b>	<b>PRISONER PETITIONS</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer w/ disab - Empl <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer w/ disab - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Satellite TV	<input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motion to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 565 Prison Condition		

## VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE US CIVIL STATUTE UNDER WHICH YOU ARE FILING AND WRITE BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE. DO NOT CITE JURISDICTIONAL STATUTES UNLESS DIVERSITY)

28 U.S.C.A. § 1332

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:  CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION DEMAND \$  CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:  
 UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 JURY DEMAND:  YES  NO

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) PLEASE REFER TO CIVIL L.R. 3-12 CONCERNING REQUIREMENT TO FILE  
 IF ANY "NOTICE OF RELATED CASE".

## IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (CIVIL L.R. 3-2)

(PLACE AND "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)

 SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND SAN JOSE

DATE 4/4/08

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

ATTACHMENT TO CIVIL COVER SHEET:

Attorneys for Plaintiffs:

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